

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-5 and 10-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, and 15 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 10, and 15. New claims 19-32 have been added by this submission. The Applicant respectfully asserts that no new matter has been added by this amendment. Support for the new claims may be found, for example, on page 48 of the instant specification.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate that he has reviewed the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 27, 2001, by returning an initialed copy of the corresponding PTO-1449 Form.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR §1.84 or §1.152. The Applicant respectfully notes that formal drawings filed on January 27, 2004, and respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate whether the filed formal drawings are acceptable.

Double Patenting

In response the office action mailed October 27, 2003, the Applicant submitted, pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion, a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection with respect to claims 1, 10, 15, and 17. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate whether the filed terminal disclaimer is acceptable to overcome the double patenting rejection with respect to claims 1, 10, 15, and 17.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by iPlanet Directory Server Administrator's Guide (Document ID 816-0799-01) ("iPlanet"). At the outset the Applicant respectfully notes that claims 6-9 have been cancelled by the response received February 2, 2004. Accordingly, the rejection is moot with respect to the cancelled claims.

With respect to the remaining claims, iPlanet is not valid prior art to this application. As evidenced by the attached declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, the present invention was conceived prior to the effective 102(a) date of iPlanet, and subsequently constructively reduced to practice with due diligence exercised by the inventors. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

New claims

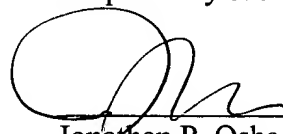
The rejection is also moot with respect to new claims 19-32 for at least the same reasons as claims 1-18.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 13220.022001).

Date: 8/24/04

Respectfully submitted,



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